

**From:** [Latham, John](#)  
**To:** [Latham, John](#)  
**Subject:** FW: U.S. Environmental Stakeholder Meeting Invitation for upcoming Stockholm Convention technical meeting (POPRC 16)  
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**From:** Kovner, Karissa

**Sent:** Sunday, January 3, 2021 2:28 PM

**To:** 'apetsonk@environmentaldefense.org' <[apetsonk@environmentaldefense.org](mailto:apetsonk@environmentaldefense.org)>; 'dsosland@env-ne.org' <[dsosland@env-ne.org](mailto:dsosland@env-ne.org)>; [jsavitz@oceana.org](mailto:jsavitz@oceana.org); 'kflorini@environmentaldefense.org' <[kflorini@environmentaldefense.org](mailto:kflorini@environmentaldefense.org)>; [kmb@sciencecorps.org](mailto:kmb@sciencecorps.org); 'scochran@environmentaldefense.org' <[scochran@environmentaldefense.org](mailto:scochran@environmentaldefense.org)>; 'smooney@wrf.com' <[smooney@wrf.com](mailto:smooney@wrf.com)>; 'ebaum@catf.us' <[ebaum@catf.us](mailto:ebaum@catf.us)>; [Eric.Uram@Headwater.US](mailto:Eric.Uram@Headwater.US); 'mripley@sault.com' <[mripley@sault.com](mailto:mripley@sault.com)>; 'karl@panna.org' <[karl@panna.org](mailto:karl@panna.org)>; 'kristins@panna.org' <[kristins@panna.org](mailto:kristins@panna.org)>; [dhawkins@nrdc.org](mailto:dhawkins@nrdc.org); [rdenison@edf.org](mailto:rdenison@edf.org); [spatton@igc.org](mailto:spatton@igc.org); 'drosenberg@nrdc.org' <[drosenberg@nrdc.org](mailto:drosenberg@nrdc.org)>; 'jfeldman@beyondpesticides.org' <[jfeldman@beyondpesticides.org](mailto:jfeldman@beyondpesticides.org)>; 'mchandra@panna.org' <[mchandra@panna.org](mailto:mchandra@panna.org)>; 'jrobinson@environmentalhealthfund.org' <[jrobinson@environmentalhealthfund.org](mailto:jrobinson@environmentalhealthfund.org)>; [Paul.Orum@yahoo.com](mailto:Paul.Orum@yahoo.com); [fcorey@micmachhealth.org](mailto:fcorey@micmachhealth.org); [envplanner@maliseets.com](mailto:envplanner@maliseets.com); 'dlekanoff@swinomish.nsn.us' <[dlekanoff@swinomish.nsn.us](mailto:dlekanoff@swinomish.nsn.us)>; 'jaguto@ncai.org' <[jaguto@ncai.org](mailto:jaguto@ncai.org)>; [vyeaton@yahoo.com](mailto:vyeaton@yahoo.com); 'jpersell@lldrm.org' <[jpersell@lldrm.org](mailto:jpersell@lldrm.org)>; 'vi@akaction.net' <[vi@akaction.net](mailto:vi@akaction.net)>; 'mjones@sso.org' <[mjones@sso.org](mailto:mjones@sso.org)>; 'rep.john.persell@house.mn' <[rep.john.persell@house.mn](mailto:rep.john.persell@house.mn)>; 'CKENNEDY@defenders.org' <[CKENNEDY@defenders.org](mailto:CKENNEDY@defenders.org)>; 'mfry@abcbirds.org' <[mfry@abcbirds.org](mailto:mfry@abcbirds.org)>; 'richtren@gmail.com' <[richtren@gmail.com](mailto:richtren@gmail.com)>; 'btuncak@ciel.org' <[btuncak@ciel.org](mailto:btuncak@ciel.org)>; 'dazoulay@ciel.org' <[dazoulay@ciel.org](mailto:dazoulay@ciel.org)>; 'andrea@treatycouncil.org' <[andrea@treatycouncil.org](mailto:andrea@treatycouncil.org)>; 'sonoquie@hotmail.com' <[sonoquie@hotmail.com](mailto:sonoquie@hotmail.com)>; [ken\\_geiser@uml.edu](mailto:ken_geiser@uml.edu); 'selin@bu.edu' <[selin@bu.edu](mailto:selin@bu.edu)>; [pamela@akaction.org](mailto:pamela@akaction.org)  
**Cc:** Aranda, Amber <[aranda.amber@epa.gov](mailto:aranda.amber@epa.gov)>; Nazef, Laura <[Nazef.Laura@epa.gov](mailto:Nazef.Laura@epa.gov)>; Perron, Monique <[Perron.Monique@epa.gov](mailto:Perron.Monique@epa.gov)>; 'Clark, Andrew D' <[ClarkAD@state.gov](mailto:ClarkAD@state.gov)>; 'Nichols, Elizabeth S' <[NicholsES@state.gov](mailto:NicholsES@state.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: U.S. Environmental Stakeholder Meeting Invitation for upcoming Stockholm Convention technical meeting (POPRC 16)

Hi everyone,

The next meeting of the Stockholm Convention's Persistent Organic Pollutant Review Committee (POPRC) will be held virtually Jan. 11<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>. In order to inform the positions of the U.S. delegation, we will be holding a domestic environmental stakeholder call on Tuesday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, from 3:00pm-4:00pm. This call will prepare us for our participation as an observer government. Please dial 1-202-991-0477 and enter conference id number 9358598#. We look forward to hearing from you.

If you know of other U.S. environmental stakeholders that would like to join us, please do forward this invitation to them. Please note these stakeholder calls are not open to the press.

Attached you will find the draft annotated agenda for the meeting and the scenario note. If you are interested in reading the underlying documents, you will find them at [www.pops.int](http://www.pops.int).

Thanks very much. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Karissa

Karissa Kovner  
Senior Policy Advisor for International Affairs  
Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
(202)564-0564



**Stockholm Convention  
on Persistent Organic  
Pollutants**

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**Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee**

**Sixteenth meeting**

Geneva (online), 11–16 January 2021

Item 2 (b) of the provisional agenda\*

**Organizational matters: organization of work**

**Scenario note for the sixteenth meeting of the Persistent  
Organic Pollutants Review Committee**

**Note by the Secretariat**

A scenario note developed by the interim Chair of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee, Mr. Peter Dawson (New Zealand), to assist participants in preparing for the sixteenth meeting of the Committee is set out in the annex to the present note.

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\* UNEP/POPS/POPRC.16/1.

## Annex

### Scenario note for the sixteenth meeting of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee

1. The present scenario note is intended to assist participants in preparing for the sixteenth meeting of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee.
2. The documents for the meeting have been posted on the website of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (<http://www.pops.int/poprc16>) and made available to the Committee.

#### A. Objectives and possible outcomes of the meeting

3. The first objective of the meeting is to ensure that the Committee undertakes the work assigned to it under the Convention. To that end, the Committee will:
  - (a) For each of the draft risk profiles developed by the intersessional working groups established by the Committee (Dechlorane Plus and its syn-isomer and anti-isomer; methoxychlor):
    - (i) Adopt, with any amendments, the risk profile;
    - (ii) Decide, in accordance with paragraph 7 of Article 8 of the Convention and on the basis of the risk profile, whether the chemical is likely, as a result of its long-range environmental transport, to lead to significant adverse human health and/or environmental effects such that global action is warranted and that the proposal should proceed;
    - (iii) Agree, depending on the decision taken under (ii) above:
      - a. To invite all Parties and observers to provide information, pursuant to Annex F to the Convention, to establish an intersessional working group to develop a draft risk management evaluation and to agree on a workplan for completing the draft for consideration by the Committee at its seventeenth meeting; or
      - b. To make the risk profile available to all Parties and observers and set it aside.
  - (b) For the proposal to list UV-328 in Annexes A, B and/or C to the Stockholm Convention:
    - (i) Examine the proposal, apply the screening criteria specified in Annex D to the Convention in a flexible and transparent way, and complete an evaluation as to whether the proposal has fulfilled those criteria;
    - (ii) If it is satisfied that the screening criteria have been fulfilled, establish an intersessional working group to develop a draft risk profile and agree on a workplan for completing the draft for consideration by the Committee at its seventeenth meeting.
4. Participants should note that any new information on chemicals under review that they may wish to bring to the attention of the Committee may be considered during the meeting only if the full documents providing such information, including their references, are provided to all Committee members.
5. The second objective of the meeting is to complete the tasks assigned to the Committee by the Conference of the Parties and to consider issues related to the effective operation of the Committee. To meet that objective, the Committee will:
  - (a) Review and complete the reports on the information related to the continued need for specific exemptions for decabromodiphenyl ether and short-chain chlorinated paraffins;
  - (b) Review and provide comments on the draft report for the evaluation and review of brominated diphenyl ethers listed in Annex A to the Convention prepared by the Secretariat;
  - (c) Review the information submitted by Parties and others on the identification of substances covered by the listing of perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), its salts and PFOA-related compounds and provide comments on the establishment of an indicative list of PFOA, its salts and PFOA-related compounds;

- (d) Discuss activities for the effective participation of Parties in the work of the Committee.

## **B. Meeting agenda**

6. The provisional agenda for the meeting (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.16/1) lists the items before the Committee. The Committee members are invited to notify the Secretariat before the meeting of any other matters that should be included. The annotations to the provisional agenda (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.16/1/Add.1) identify the issues for discussion under each agenda item and the documents that correspond to that item.

## **C. Organization of work**

7. Owing to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, on an exceptional basis, the entire meeting, including plenary sessions and contact or drafting group sessions, will be conducted online.

8. The online sessions of the meeting will take place from Monday, 11 January to Saturday, 16 January 2021.

9. Further information on the practical and technical aspects of the online sessions of the meeting will be made available on the Convention website. Members will receive additional information on the arrangements relating to the review of issues pertaining to conflicts of interest.

### **1. Pre-meetings**

10. Pre-meetings will be held from 1 to 3 December 2020, in English only, from 11.30 a.m. to 3 p.m. (Geneva time (UTC+1)) daily. This will provide an early opportunity to introduce and discuss the technical work (item 4 of the provisional agenda) with the aim of facilitating the Committee's work at its sixteenth meeting, and thereby contributing to the efficient use of the time available during the online meeting. Participants are therefore encouraged to actively participate in the pre-meetings so as to ensure a full and rich exchange of views in relation to the technical work to be completed.

11. Further information on the practical and technical aspects of the pre-meetings will be made available on the Convention website.

### **2. Sixteenth meeting of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee: online meeting**

12. A tentative schedule for the meeting, including working hours, covering both the plenary sessions and the contact or drafting group sessions, is provided in document UNEP/POPS/POPRC.16/INF/2/Rev.1.

13. With regard to those items with a bearing on subsequent meetings, it is proposed that the Committee's work at its sixteenth meeting be organized to prioritize the items to be completed and forwarded to:

- (a) The Conference of the Parties at its tenth meeting, in July 2021, in the first instance;
- (b) The Committee at its seventeenth meeting, in September 2021, thereafter.

14. The online meeting will begin at 12 noon (Geneva time (UTC+1)) on Monday, 11 January 2021, with opening formalities in plenary (item 1 of the provisional agenda). The Committee will then adopt the agenda for the meeting (item 2 (a) of the provisional agenda), amended as appropriate, and agree on the organization of work (item 2 (b) of the provisional agenda).

15. The Committee will then consider the rotation of the membership of the Committee (item 3 of the provisional agenda). A representative of the Secretariat will provide information on the newly appointed members and the rotation of the membership in May 2022.

16. The Committee will then take up the technical work (item 4 of the provisional agenda) as follows:

- (a) The Committee will consider the proposal to list UV-328 in Annexes A, B and/or C to the Convention (item 4 (b) of the provisional agenda). Under this item:
  - (i) The Committee will discuss whether the proposal fulfils the screening criteria;
  - (ii) The Committee may find it necessary to establish a contact group to develop a draft decision that includes the elements listed in paragraph 3 (b) above for possible adoption by the Committee during the meeting.

(b) The Committee will next consider the work on the review of information related to specific exemptions for decabromodiphenyl ether and short-chain chlorinated paraffins (item 4 (c) of the provisional agenda);

(c) The Committee will then consider the draft risk profiles on Dechlorane Plus and its syn-isomer and anti-isomer, and on methoxychlor (item 4 (a) (i) and (ii) of the provisional agenda). Under these items and in accordance with the usual practice for physical meetings:

- (i) The chair of the intersessional working group that developed the draft risk profile will present it to the Committee;
- (ii) The Committee will be given the opportunity to ask questions about the draft;
- (iii) The Committee will discuss the draft risk profile and whether the chemical is likely, as a result of its long-range environmental transport, to lead to significant adverse human health and/or environmental effects such that global action is warranted;
- (iv) The Committee may find it necessary to establish a contact group to develop a draft decision that includes the elements listed in paragraph 3 (a) (ii) above for possible adoption by the Committee at the meeting.

(d) Thereafter, the Committee will consider the evaluation and review of brominated diphenyl ethers pursuant to paragraph 2 of parts IV and V of Annex A to the Stockholm Convention (item 4 (d) of the provisional agenda);

(e) The Committee will then consider an indicative list of substances covered by the listing of PFOA, its salts and PFOA-related compounds (item 4 (e) of the provisional agenda).

17. The Committee will consider a report on activities to support effective participation in the work of the Committee (item 5 of the provisional agenda).

18. The Committee will then consider a workplan for the intersessional period between its sixteenth and seventeenth meetings (item 6 of the provisional agenda). Under this item, the workplan for the preparation of draft risk profiles and draft risk management evaluations will be adopted.

19. The Committee will then agree on the venue and date of its seventeenth meeting (item 7 of the provisional agenda) and discuss any other matters (item 8 of the provisional agenda).

20. The report of the meeting is expected to be adopted on Saturday, 16 January 2021 (item 9 of the provisional agenda). The Committee will approve the report of the meeting as at the end of the plenary session of Thursday, 14 January, with any amendments that it may consider necessary. Consistent with past practice, the Committee may agree that the section of the report pertaining to the plenary sessions held on Saturday, 16 January, will be prepared by the Vice-Chair, serving as rapporteur, in cooperation with the Secretariat, and incorporated into the final meeting report under the authority of the interim Chair.

21. Upon the conclusion of the matters before the Committee, the interim Chair will close the meeting (item 10 of the provisional agenda).

**Stockholm Convention  
on Persistent Organic  
Pollutants**

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**Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee****Sixteenth meeting**

Geneva (online), 11–16 January 2021

Item 2 (b) of the provisional agenda\*

**Organizational matters: organization of work****Annotations to the provisional agenda****Item 1****Opening of the meeting**

1. The sixteenth meeting of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee will be held from 11 to 16 January 2021. Owing to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, it is not possible for participants to meet face to face in Geneva or in Rome as had originally been planned. The meeting will therefore, as an exceptional measure, be conducted online. The meeting will be opened by the interim Chair of the Committee, Mr. Peter Dawson (New Zealand), at 12 noon (Geneva time (UTC+1)) on Monday, 11 January 2021.
2. Opening and welcoming statements will be delivered.

**Item 2****Organizational matters****(a) Adoption of the agenda**

3. The Committee may wish to adopt its agenda, with any amendments, on the basis of the provisional agenda (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.16/1).

**(b) Organization of work**

4. The Committee has before it a scenario note for the meeting, prepared by the interim Chair (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.16/INF/1/Rev.1), and a tentative schedule for the meeting, prepared by the Secretariat (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.16/INF/2/Rev.1).
5. The Committee may wish to meet in online sessions from Monday, 11 January to Thursday, 14 January 2021 from 12 noon to 2 p.m. (Geneva time, (UTC+1)) daily and on Saturday, 16 January 2021 from 12 noon to 2 p.m. (Geneva time (UTC+1)) and from 2.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. (Geneva time (UTC+1)), subject to adjustments as necessary. The Committee may wish to establish contact groups as necessary, and specify their mandates. Contact group sessions would be held from Monday, 11 January to Thursday, 14 January from 2.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. (Geneva time (UTC+1)), and on Friday, 15 January, from 12 noon to 2 p.m. (Geneva time (UTC+1)) and from 2.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. (Geneva time (UTC+1)).

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\* UNEP/POPS/POPRC.16/1.

### Item 3

#### Rotation of the membership

6. The Committee has before it a note by the Secretariat on the newly appointed members of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee and rotation of the membership in May 2022 (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.16/INF/3). The Committee may wish to take note of the information provided.

### Item 4

#### Technical work

##### (a) Consideration of draft risk profiles

###### (i) Dechlorane Plus and its syn-isomer and anti-isomer

7. The Committee has before it notes by the Secretariat on a draft risk profile on Dechlorane Plus and its syn-isomer and anti-isomer (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.16/2), on comments and responses relating to the draft risk profile on Dechlorane Plus and its syn-isomer and anti-isomer (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.16/INF/4), and on additional information on the draft risk profile on Dechlorane Plus and its syn-isomer and anti-isomer (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.16/INF/14). The Committee may wish to take note of the information provided in the documents and consider the action proposed in document UNEP/POPS/POPRC.16/2.

###### (ii) Methoxychlor

8. The Committee has before it notes by the Secretariat on a draft risk profile on Methoxychlor (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.16/3) and on comments and responses relating to the draft risk profile on Methoxychlor (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.16/INF/5). The Committee may wish to take note of the information provided in the documents and consider the action proposed in document UNEP/POPS/POPRC.16/3.

##### (b) Consideration of a proposal for the inclusion of UV-328 in Annexes A, B and/or C to the Convention

9. The Committee has before it notes by the Secretariat on the proposal to list UV-328 in Annex A to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.16/4) and on the Secretariat's verification of whether the proposal to list UV-328 in Annex A to the Convention contains the information specified in Annex D to the Convention (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.16/INF/6/Rev.1). The Committee may wish to take note of the information provided in the documents and consider the action proposed in document UNEP/POPS/POPRC.16/4.

##### (c) Review of information related to specific exemptions for decabromodiphenyl ether and short-chain chlorinated paraffins

10. The Committee has before it a note by the Secretariat on the review of information related to specific exemptions for decabromodiphenyl ether and short-chain chlorinated paraffins (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.16/5), a draft report on the review of information related to specific exemptions for decabromodiphenyl ether (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.16/INF/7), a draft report on the review of information related to specific exemptions for short-chain chlorinated paraffins (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.16/INF/8), and notes by the Secretariat on comments and responses relating to the draft report on the review of information related to specific exemptions for decabromodiphenyl ether (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.16/INF/9), and on comments and responses relating to the draft report on the review of information related to specific exemptions for short-chain chlorinated paraffins (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.16/INF/10). The Committee may wish to take note of the information provided in the documents and consider the action proposed in document UNEP/POPS/POPRC.16/5.

##### (d) Evaluation and review of brominated diphenyl ethers pursuant to paragraph 2 of parts IV and V of Annex A to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants

11. The Committee has before it a note by the Secretariat on the evaluation and review of brominated diphenyl ethers pursuant to paragraph 2 of parts IV and V of Annex A to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.16/6) and a draft report for the evaluation and review of brominated diphenyl ethers listed in Annex A to the Stockholm Convention (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.16/INF/11). The Committee may wish to take note of the information provided in the documents and consider the action proposed in document UNEP/POPS/POPRC.16/6.



**(e) Indicative list of substances covered by the listing of perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), its salts and PFOA-related compounds**

12. The Committee has before it a note by the Secretariat on the indicative list of substances covered by the listing of perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), its salts and PFOA-related compounds (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.16/7) and a compilation of the information submitted by Parties and others pursuant to section III of decision SC-9/13 and an indicative list of substances covered by the listing of perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), its salts and PFOA-related compounds (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.16/INF/12). The Committee may wish to take note of the information provided in the documents and consider the action proposed in document UNEP/POPS/POPRC.16/7.

**Item 5**

**Report on activities to support effective participation in the work of the Committee**

13. The Committee has before it a note by the Secretariat on a report on activities to support effective participation in the work of the Committee (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.16/INF/13). The Committee may wish to take note of the information provided in the note.

**Item 6**

**Workplan for the intersessional period between the sixteenth and seventeenth meetings of the Committee**

14. The Committee has before it a note by the Secretariat on a draft workplan for the intersessional period between the sixteenth and seventeenth meetings of the Committee (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.16/8). The Committee may wish to consider the draft workplan and adopt it with any amendments.

**Item 7**

**Venue and date of the seventeenth meeting of the Committee**

15. The Committee may wish to consider and decide on the venue and date of its seventeenth meeting.

**Item 8**

**Other matters**

16. The Committee may wish to consider other matters raised by its members during the course of the meeting.

**Item 9**

**Adoption of the report**

17. The Committee will be invited to consider and adopt the draft report of the meeting prepared by the rapporteur.

**Item 10**

**Closure of the meeting**

18. It is expected that the interim Chair will close the meeting by 4.30 p.m. (Geneva time (UTC+1)) on Saturday, 16 January 2021.